

Arizona School Facilities Board

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Governor of Arizona
Jane Dee Hull

February 12, 2002

Executive Director
Dr. Philip E. Geiger

Dear Superintendent:

Valentine's Day is a perfect time to say thank you to all of you who have worked so diligently with us to try and make a difference for your school district, your students and your community. Most architects are now completing the designs for deficiency corrections, which means that we will soon be bidding a record number of projects. All in all there are more than 6200 deficiency corrections projects and we are all working hard to meet the June 30, 2003 deadline to complete them. Of course, ensuring that we get the best value sometimes takes more time than we would like, but we need to be as prudent as possible in the implementation of the deficiency corrections program.

In many ways our story reflects the Frank Lloyd Wright comment about success, "I know the price of success: dedication, hard work and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen." As Benjamin Franklin said, "Energy and persistence conquer all things."

We've had a few bumps along the road with which we need your help. Several architects and engineers have not been paid in a timely fashion, often because districts did not realize the funds had been transferred from the School Facilities Board to the County Treasurer or because the County Treasurer did not release the funds in a timely fashion. In the deficiency corrections program, architects and engineers are the only vendors paid directly by local districts. We transfer the funds upon receipt of a correct and valid invoice from the project manager, which has also been authorized by district personnel. When those funds are transferred, we send the district a written notification and post the payment on the SFB website. If you have a question about making these payments, please call Deputy Director John Arnold at (602) 542-6147 or Kristi Gerken at (602) 542-6061.

Finally, please call me directly if we are not serving you and your district properly. We want to provide outstanding service and will take steps to correct any problem that develops. Once you have tried to work through an issue with your liaison, project supervisor, or project manager, either I or one of the deputy directors can help you. You can reach me directly at (602) 542-6143 or at pgeiger@sfb.state.az.us.

Sincerely,

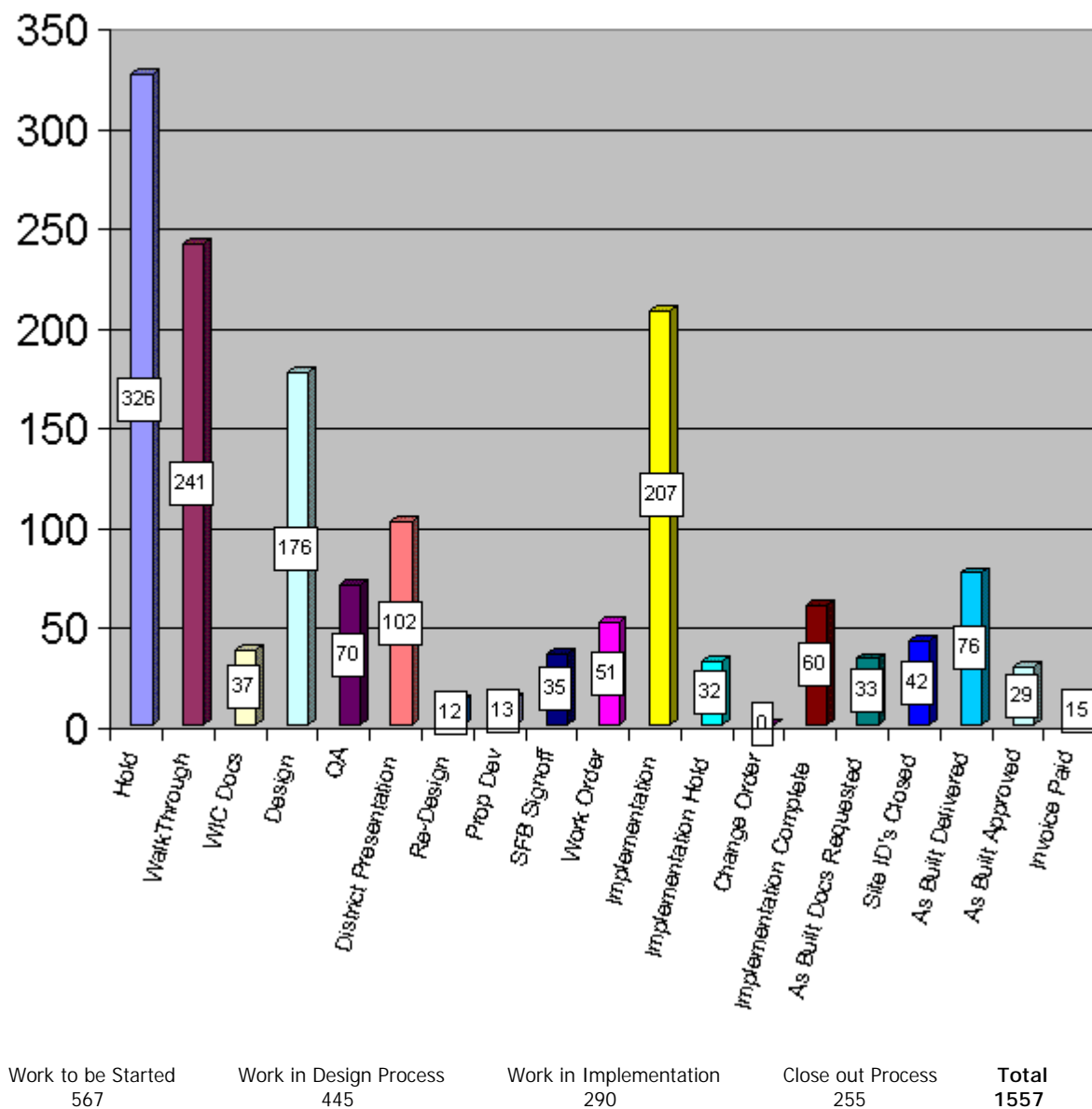
Philip E. Geiger

PROJECT MANAGEMENT & AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED

To date more than \$769.9 million in hard construction, deficiency corrections projects have been assigned to project managers and districts have received specific letters authorizing the design and engineering of those projects. If the School Facilities Board has approved the scope of your projects, but you have not yet received such a notice, you can expect authorization to proceed soon. At the February board meeting, the board approved the cancellation of 6 supplemental projects (dollar amounts in parentheses below) and authorized an additional \$16.9 million for 73 supplemental projects, specifically:

District	Number of Projects	Total Project Budget
Apache Junction Unified	2	\$ 1,518,582
Avondale Elementary	1	\$ 75,800
Buckeye Elementary	1	\$ 135,000
Bullhead City Elementary	2	\$ 25,100
Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary	1	\$ 30,380
Crane Elementary	15	\$ 1,723,853
Creighton Elementary	2	\$ (194,382)
Deer Valley Unified	2	\$ 94,693
Dysart Unified	3	\$ 70,700
Gadsden Elementary	3	\$ 182,500
Gilbert Unified	1	\$ 530,720
Heber-Overgaard Unified	4	\$ (31,794)
Higley Unified	1	\$ 14,260
Kayenta Unified	1	\$ 162,300
Lake Havasu Unified	1	\$ 6,500
Laveen Elementary	1	\$ 189,000
Miami Unified	4	\$ 69,071
Prescott Unified	1	\$ 187,500
Ray Unified	5	\$ 9,470,706
Red Mesa Unified	2	\$ 86,650
Safford Unified	1	\$ 53,400
Scottsdale Unified	11	\$ 1,700,168
Sedona-Oak Creek Unified	1	\$ 137,000
Show Low Unified	5	\$ 49,023
Snowflake Unified	1	\$ 72,700
Tolleson Union High School District	2	\$ 78,400
Tuba City Unified	1	\$ 254,696
Wenden Elementary	3	\$ 249,131
Young Elementary	1	\$ 22,000
Total	79	\$ 16,963,657

NETWORKING UPDATE



Visit the Qwest SFB Project Central website for information specific to your district at <http://qwestazsfb.com/corc/>. To obtain your district's username and password, contact the Qwest SFB Project Central Status Desk toll free at 1-866-Learn01 (532-6701) or via email at SFBProjectCentral@qwest.com.

Following is an example of a project Qwest has completed:

Congress Elementary School District Internet Connectivity Project



Congress Elementary elected to use the NetSchools solution for computer access. This gives each student his/her own assigned laptop that is available in each class and that can be taken home in the evening. While they currently need their own dial-up access from home, Congress has plans to make several dial-ups available directly to the school so that personal ISP connections from home won't be necessary.

Qwest provided the satellite dish in Congress and access has been extremely fast and reliable.

ASP UPDATE

The Cox Education Network has held many awareness events for public school teachers and administrators to provide information about the ASP base package and related services. These discussions include ASP content services, managed services, professional development, premium services, implementation issues, timelines associated with the ASP rollout, and a live demonstration of the education desktop. These events have been a huge success; over 2,000 educators have attended so far.

There are currently 20 schools that are part of the Cox Education Network's desktop rollout pilot program. By the end of March, 250 schools are expected to be up and running. The entire project is expected to be complete by August. For a list of upcoming awareness events and additional information about the ASP, check out the Cox Education Network website at www.coxednet.org.

SFB PARTNERS WITH ARIZONA StRUT

Arizona StRUT (Students Recycling Used Technology) is a partnership between local schools and businesses such as Motorola, Intel, ICM, APS, and Boeing to generate a stream of computer equipment refurbished by students. Arizona StRUT teachers train over 1200 students each year at 32 sites. Students are given the opportunity to work on computers and gain the marketable hands on technical and workplace skills that companies seek. Once the computers are refurbished, they are donated to K-12 schools or non-profit organizations in the community.

As a result of AZ StRUT's partnership with the School Facilities Board, StRUT has initially earmarked 2000 computers to be donated to schools and non-profit

community organizations through the SFB. With the implementation of Arizona's educational application service provider into schools statewide, students will soon have access to the Internet and over 250 educational software programs 24/7. It is the intention of the School Facilities Board that these refurbished computers be utilized to enhance student access to the ASP after school hours within the community. Although we know many if not a majority of students have access to a computer at home and therefore to the ASP, we promised to provide additional access at public locations like YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, churches, community centers and libraries where students can access the Internet after school.

As a district, you can participate in the AZ StRUT program in three ways:

- 1) Request a donation of computers – fill out the enclosed computer donation request form and submit it to Darla Jordan at the School Facilities Board. Contact information is listed on the bottom of the form. Non-profit organizations are also encouraged to request donations.
- 2) Make a donation of computers or seek corporate donations from local businesses – contact Ken Mystrom, Motorola Technology Partnerships Program Manager, at (602) 454-2680 or Ken.Mystrom@motorola.com. (Too often outdated computers end up in landfills rather than serving a new purpose.)
- 3) Establish a StRUT Refurbishing Center in your district – the criteria sheet and contract is enclosed. If you have questions, contact Ken Mystrom, Motorola Technology Partnerships Program Manager, at (602) 454-2680 or Ken.Mystrom@motorola.com.

DEFICIENCY CORRECTION PAYMENTS – CLARIFICATION

Last month's newsletter contained information about the deficiency corrections payment process. It is included here again to further clarify the process. Please review it carefully.

Architect's Fees

1. The district signs the contract with the architect and issues the P.O.
2. The architect invoices the district. ***The architect should also send a copy to the SFB project manager to expedite the process.***
3. The district *and SFB project manager* review and approve the invoice.
4. The SFB project manager submits the invoice to the SFB for payment
5. The SFB forwards payment to the district (through the County Treasurer).
6. The district pays the architect.

Note: It is the district's responsibility to see that payment is made to the architect in a timely manner. Once the invoice reaches the SFB project manager,

the SFB should forward payment to the County Treasurer in no less than seven days.

Contractor Payments

1. The SFB signs the contract with the contractor and issues the P.O.
2. The contractor invoices the SFB through the project manager.
3. The SFB pays the contractor.

Payment information is also listed on the SFB website as payments are made.

CALL FOR REMAINING DEFICIENCY PROJECTS

Although the SFB statewide assessment of schools was completed last year, the School Facilities Board has been approving supplemental projects each month. In an effort to complete the list of supplemental projects, we would like districts to send in requests for the correction of any additional deficiencies that have not yet been addressed by the School Facilities Board. Please submit these requests to your liaison **within the next two weeks**. Completion of supplemental project approvals will allow us to better focus on the delivery of construction services.

QWEST INSTALLATION OF SWITCHES

Qwest has been instructed to place switches within 6 feet of an electrical outlet as required by the State Fire Marshall. If the district would like the switch to be placed somewhere else, the district is responsible for the extra cost associated with the special placement of the switch. However, the district can use a Job Order Contractor (JOC) for this work. During the same visit, the JOC may also perform other work for the district if it is listed in the unit price book.

REQUIRED SIGNAGE AT SFB CONSTRUCTION SITES

At this month's board meeting, the School Facilities board approved signage to be placed at all SFB construction sites. In order to acknowledge the contribution and participation of the state, the contractor is now required to erect a sign indicating that the school construction is being financed by the State of Arizona, Students FIRST, and the Arizona School Facilities Board. These signs will also allow the community to see their tax dollars at work. Details on signage are being provided to project managers.

WAY TO GO!

Congratulations to Caryn Paige, project manager for PinnacleOne! Caryn was recently nominated by SFB Liaison Ron Erps for a "When Pigs Fly" award. For those who are not familiar with the award, it is given by the executive director of School Facilities Board to recognize someone for exemplary work.

Caryn was nominated for her work with the Young Elementary School District. Young's rubberized gym floor contains mercury. Extensive tests were taken which found no detectable levels of mercury or any other hazardous metal in the air. If the floor were to be removed and disposed of, it would exceed the acceptable limit for standard landfill disposal. Therefore, it would have to be transported to a landfill in California or Nevada. The cost of removal, transport, and disposal was estimated to cost between \$35,000 and \$57,000. Caryn suggested that because the floor does not present a hazard and provides a better base for a new floor, it would be best to place the new flooring over the existing floor, saving the state thousands of dollars. Congratulations Caryn!

FIREWALL, FILTERING AND SERVER UPDATE

Darcomm has voluntarily withdrawn from fulfilling the firewall portion of the networking project and is no longer associated with the School Facilities Board. Districts will be provided firewalls as required along with Websense filtering software (for 4 years) without charge and installed by Qwest. In addition, Dell servers (through a state contract) will be provided where necessary to operate the filtering software. As previously indicated these are being provided to districts without cost as part of our technology program. State law requires that all districts provide Internet filtering software for students.

SECOND ROUND OF CISCO ACADEMY AWARDS

Cisco Academies have been awarded to the following districts: Camp Verde Unified, Coolidge Unified, Mingus Union, Page Unified, Ray Unified, San Carlos Unified, Sedona-Oak Creek Unified, Tucson Unified, and Williams Unified. Congratulations!! Districts interested in a Cisco Academy should contact Deputy Director Candace Cooley at (602) 542-6146 or ccooley@sfb.state.az.us.

FORDHAM PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation has announced the establishment of two new annual \$25,000 Excellence In Education prizes for individuals who have achieved extraordinary accomplishments in education scholarship and reform. The foundation is inviting nominations for these prizes, which will first be

awarded in January 2003. A prize committee will choose the winners based on lifetime achievement or extraordinary one-time accomplishments.

The \$25,000 prize for distinguished education scholarship will be awarded to a scholar who has made major contributions to education reform via research, analysis, and successful engagement in the war of ideas.

The \$25,000 prize for education valor will be awarded to a leader who has made major contributions to education reform via noteworthy accomplishment at the national, state, local and/or school levels.

Successful candidates will be distinguished education scholars, practitioners, policymakers and activists who have advanced effective education reform that accords with the Foundation's core principles, which emphasize the following:

- dramatically higher standards;
- an education system designed for and responsive to the needs of its users;
- verifiable outcomes and accountability;
- equality of opportunity;
- a solid core curriculum taught by knowledgeable, expert instructors; and
- educational diversity, competition and choice.

The deadline for nominations is May 31, 2002. Anyone may be nominated whose work has had a profound impact on education in the United States. Self-nominations will not be considered. Further information and details about the prizes, including criteria and procedures, are available at the Foundation's website at www.edexcellence.net.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY TOOLS

Improve your indoor air quality today! The Association of School Business Officials International has just received a supply of Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Action Kits. These kits are FREE of charge to members of ASBO International. To receive your kit, simply e-mail Jay Snyder at jsnyder@asbointl.org with your name, address, and ASBO International member number or call (703) 478-0405 x130.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

The SFB customer satisfaction survey is again included with this letter. If you have not yet completed and returned a survey, please do so as soon as possible so that we can continue to improve the quality of our work and that of the project managers and Qwest.

UPCOMING SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD MEETINGS

<u>Board Meeting Dates</u>	<u>Agenda Deadline</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>
March 7, 2002	February 15, 2002	Andalucia Primary School Multipurpose Room 4530 West Campbell Phoenix, Arizona
April 4, 2002	March 15, 2002	Desert Ridge Junior High School 10211 E. Madero Avenue Mesa, Arizona
May 9, 2002	April 15, 2002	Rainbow Valley Elementary Liberty School District 19716 W. Narramore Road Buckeye, Arizona
June 6, 2002	May 17, 2002	Flagstaff Unified School District

The **attachments** listed below are enclosed with this newsletter. If you have received this letter electronically and would like one or all of the attachments, please contact Kristen Landry at (602) 542-6197 or klandry@sfb.state.az.us.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Workshop Information

The Skinny on Thin Clients, Technology & Learning, May 2000

HVAC: The Hidden Mold Menace, Cleaning & Maintenance Management, Jan. 2002

School Construction: Changing to Meet the New Trends in Education, School Business Affairs, December 2001

Arizona Executive Leadership Forum Information

StRUT Information and Forms

2002 SFB Customer Satisfaction Survey

***"Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."
Abraham Lincoln***